

people outside the body, my reference to some people who can't read was...was a nasty remark, I will admit, but there have been some people on the outside who say, there go those senators again, they're trying to open up things, they're trying to line their own pockets, they're trying to do all of these other things. There was an article in the Lincoln Journal here recently that I will share with you, if you haven't seen, that implies that. That was not the intent whatsoever in introducing this bill. The intent of the bill was to clarify. Well, the draft of the bill currently maybe opens it up a little too far so that there can be no consideration given for service rendered and that a situation where I go out in the rotunda and somebody says, here's a \$500 honoraria and I didn't do anything for that. Now, I think you are correct in pointing out that it's not all that clear what is services rendered and what's the standard to judge. I would say if a group normally pays speakers to speak and one of their people that they have invited happens to be a state senator, and the state senator gives a speech, then that state senator ought to be entitled to the speaking fee. And in your case where you go out and give speeches for enlightenment and entertainment and sharing your wisdom with the rest of the state, probably that's a service that if you were not a state senator, they would still be willing to pay that fee and I would say what you would be doing would be well within the definition of 232, as drafted, and I think it would be well within the definition of what Senator Beutler is doing. But I will share the rest of my time back with you.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Chambers, you have a minute and a half.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, here's the question I would ask of Senator Withem. Based on Senator Beutler's definition of honorarium, first of all, I agree that there should be something you do in exchange for receiving the honorarium so that it's not a payoff or a bribe or whatever. But the definition says an honorarium may be provided to a public official if it bears a reasonable relationship to the value of the services rendered. Most people would take that to mean...

SENATOR WARNER: One minute, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...that they're getting a lot more than what the services were, therefore, there's no reasonable relationship, it's not an honorarium, whatever else it is may be determined by the facts of the situation. But there could be a